

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A digital information appliance-implemented method for performing a transaction in a network environment, comprising:

receiving content on a first digital information appliance, said content including an encapsulated transaction object;

monitoring usage of the content;

identifying a utilization event of the monitored usage; and

storing an occurrence of the utilization event in the transaction object;

wherein the content and transaction information are encapsulated in the transaction object; ~~and~~

wherein the transaction object is capable of transmitting data related to the stored occurrence of the utilization event over a network via a direct, object-to-object communications protocol.

2. (Original) The method as described in claim 1, further comprising requesting content over a network connection.

3. (Original) The method as described in claim 2, wherein the request is made utilizing a request object.

4. (Original) The method as described in claim 3, wherein the request object includes a request dynamic base object, including a request interface dynamic base object and a request implementation dynamic base object.

5. (Original) The method as described in claim 4, wherein the request is made to the request interface dynamic base object, the request interface dynamic base object passes the request to a request implementation dynamic base object, the request implementation dynamic base object capable of negotiating among a plurality of content objects a desired content object based upon a user-defined criterion.

6. (Original) The method as described in claim 5, wherein the user-defined criterion includes at least one of cost, pricing structure and compatibility of the content object with the digital information appliance and the plurality of content objects reside on a plurality of digital information appliances accessible to the first digital information appliance over the network.

7. (Original) The method described in claim 1, wherein the network connection is not available, saving the occurrence of the utilization event until the network connection is available, at which time data related to the stored occurrence of the utilization event is transmitted.

8. (Original) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the transaction object includes a first occurrence of the transaction object including a transaction interface dynamic base object and a second occurrence of the transaction object including a transaction implementation dynamic base object.

9. (Original) The method as described in claim 8, wherein the transaction implementation dynamic base object is capable of supporting a plurality of payment algorithms, the payment algorithms capable of being modified without modifying the transaction interface dynamic base object.

10. (Original) The method as described in claim 8, wherein the first occurrence of the transaction object transmits data related to the stored occurrence

of the utilization event to the second occurrence of the transaction object, the second occurrence of the transaction object residing on a second digital information appliance.

11. (Original) The method as described in claim 10, wherein the second digital information appliance is a central transaction authenticator, the central transaction authenticator capable of storing and updating user account information.

12. (Original) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the content is provided by at least one of media and network connection.

13. (Currently Amended) A digital information appliance system for performing a transaction in a network environment, comprising:

a processor for executing a program of instructions on a digital information appliance;

a network connection device coupled to the processor for connecting the digital information appliance to a network; and

a memory coupled to the processor for storing the program of instructions, wherein the program of instructions configures the digital appliance to:

receive content on the digital information appliance, said content including an encapsulated transaction object;

monitor usage of the content;

identify a utilization event of the monitored usage;

store an occurrence of the utilization event in the transaction object;

wherein the content and transaction information are encapsulated in the transaction object; and

wherein the transaction object is capable of transmitting data related to the stored occurrence of the utilization event over a network via a direct, object-to-object communications protocol.

14. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 13, further comprising requesting content over the network.

15. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 14, wherein the request is made utilizing a request object.

16. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 15, wherein the request object includes a request dynamic base object, including a request interface dynamic base object and a request implementation dynamic base object.

17. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 16, wherein the request is made to the request interface dynamic base object, the request interface dynamic base object passes the request to a request implementation dynamic base object, the request implementation dynamic base object capable of negotiating among a plurality of content objects a desired content object based upon a user-defined criterion.

18. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 17, wherein the user-defined criterion includes at least one of cost, pricing structure and compatibility of the content object with the digital information appliance and the plurality of content objects reside on a plurality of a digital information appliances, the plurality of digital information appliances accessible to the first digital information appliance over the network.

19. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 13, wherein the network connection is not available, saving the occurrence of the utilization event until the network connection is available, at which time data related to the stored occurrence of the utilization event is transmitted.

20. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 13, wherein the transaction object includes a first occurrence of the transaction object including a transaction interface dynamic base object and a second occurrence of the transaction object including a transaction implementation dynamic base object.

21. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 20, wherein the transaction implementation dynamic base object is capable of supporting a plurality of payment algorithms, the payment algorithms capable of being modified without modifying the transaction interface dynamic base object.

22. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 20, wherein the first occurrence of the transaction object transmits data related to the stored occurrence of the of the utilization event to the second occurrence of the transaction object, the second occurrence of the transaction object residing on a digital information appliance.

23. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 22, wherein the second digital information appliance is a central transaction authenticator, the central transaction authenticator capable of storing and updating user account information.

24. (Original) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 13, wherein the content is provided by at least one of media and network connection.

Claims 25-39 (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) The method as described in Claim 1, wherein the transaction information includes billing information and security information.

41. (Previously Presented) The digital information appliance system as described in claim 13, wherein the transaction information includes billing information and security information.